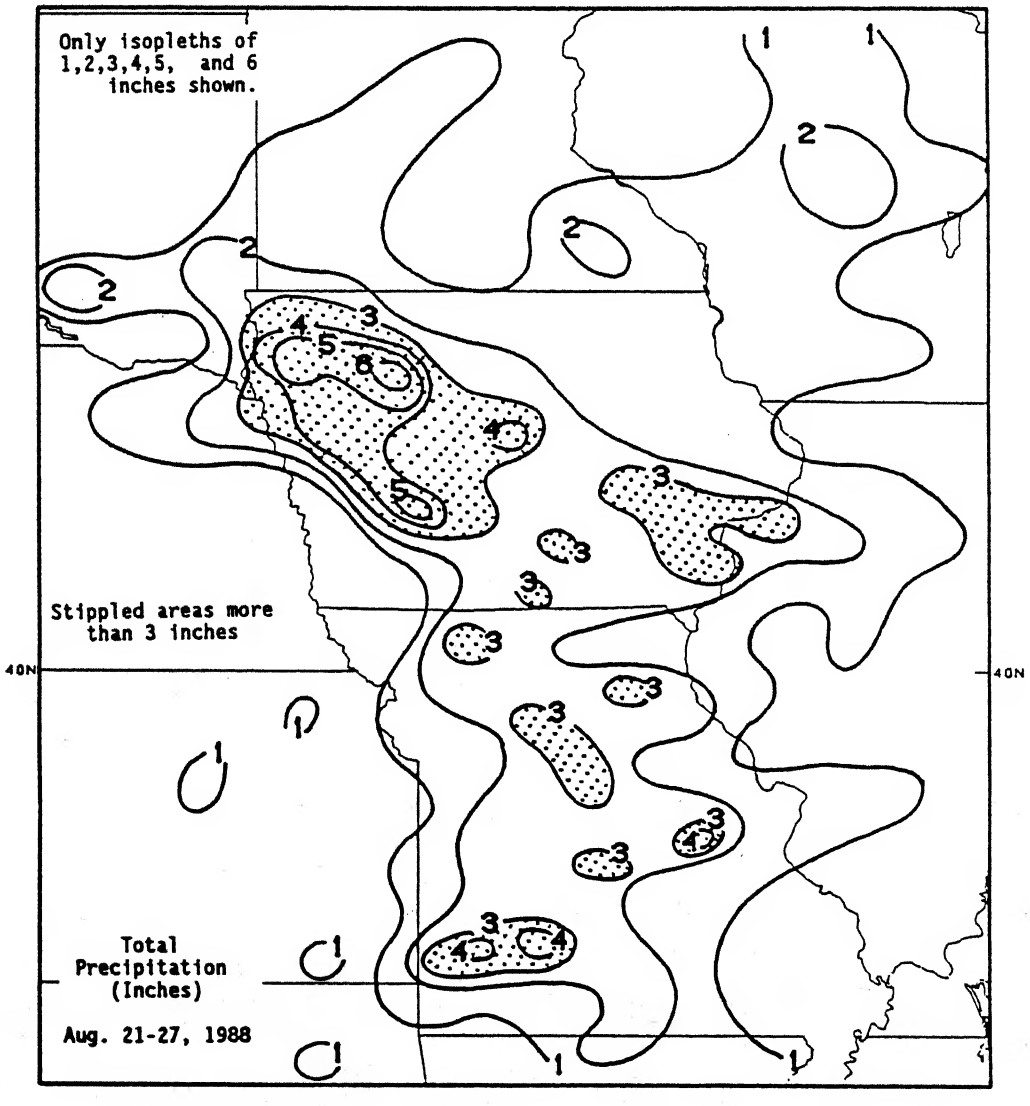
CLIMATE ANALYSIS CENTER

WEEKLY CLIMATE BULLETIN

No. 88/35 Washington, DC August 27, 1988



PORTIONS OF THE CENTRAL UNITED STATES, ESPECIALLY IOWA AND MISSOURI, RECEIVED SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL LAST WEEK AS NEAR TO ABOVE NORMAL PRECIPITATION OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS HAS GREATLY REDUCED SHORT-TERM DRYNESS IN MOST OF THE MIDWEST; HOWEVER, LONG-TERM DEFICITS OF 6-12 INCHES SINCE APRIL 1 STILL AFFLICT THE AREA.

NOAA - NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL CENTER

GLOBAL CLIMATE HIGHLIGHTS

MAJOR CLIMATIC EVENTS AND ANOMALIES AS OF AUGUST 29, 1992

estern United States:

COOLER CONDITIONS AID FIRE SUPPRESSION.

urn to near normal temperatures assisted firefighters who have been ng numerous large wildfires for several weeks. Pockets of above al temperatures remained in the desert Southwest [Ending at 33 s].

ntral and Eastern North America:

COLD AIR OVERSPREADS THE REGION.

y snow blanketed parts of Montana and the Canadian Prairie nces as temperatures averaged as much as 8°C below normal. Farther and east, unusually chilly weather was widespread, with the Dakotas Nebraska reporting weekly temperature departures near -6°C. ings dropped below freezing through much of the northern and al Rockies, and wind chills reached as low as -12°C in northern ana [9 weeks].

utheastern United States:

NDREW BRINGS HEAVY RAINS AND HIGH WINDS.

lashing parts of Florida and Louisiana with intense cloudbursts and ging winds, Hurricane Andrew weakened. Its remnants combined slow-moving cold front to bring heavy rains (up to 250 mm) to other of the Southeast and mid-Atlantic (see front cover). Some locations ed six-week moisture surpluses of 75 to 275 mm [8 weeks].

ntral South America:

MORE HOT WEATHER.

eratures averaged as much as 7°C above normal and highs soared to n northern Argentina. Temperatures rose above 30°C as far south as 9 weeks].

rthern Scandinavia:

WETNESS PERSISTS.

itation totaled 25 to 125 mm as surpluses since mid-July approached m in some areas [8 weeks].

6. Central and Eastern Europe:

HOT AND DRY WEATHER CONTINUES.

Temperatures averaged 6°C to 8°C above normal in much of central and southern Europe. Highs soared to 39°C in the Ukraine and 38°C in Czechoslovakia and Austria [6 weeks]. Much of northern and central Poland, northern and western Germany, Switzerland, northern Italy, the Baltic states, and the Benelux countries reported 20 to 50 mm of rain, but little or no rain fell elsewhere as six-week moisture deficits ranged from 50 to 240 mm across most of the region [21 weeks].

7. Turkey and Southwestern Asia:

COLD SNAP ENDS.

Temperatures averaged as much as 4°C above normal in most areas, although weekly departures reached -6°C in parts of Kazakhistan [Ended at 22 weeks].

8. Western Sahel:

MOISTURE DEFICITS ACCUMULATE.

For the sixth consecutive week, most locations in the western Sahel recorded less than 20 mm of rain north of 15°N and south of 7°N, with 20 to 50 mm (and scattered higher totals) falling elsewhere. Although precipitation is typically spotty, most locations have observed generally below normal totals since mid-July. Six-week moisture deficits ranged from 50 to 300 mm in Mali, Guinea, and other scattered locations in the region [6 weeks].

9. Southeastern China:

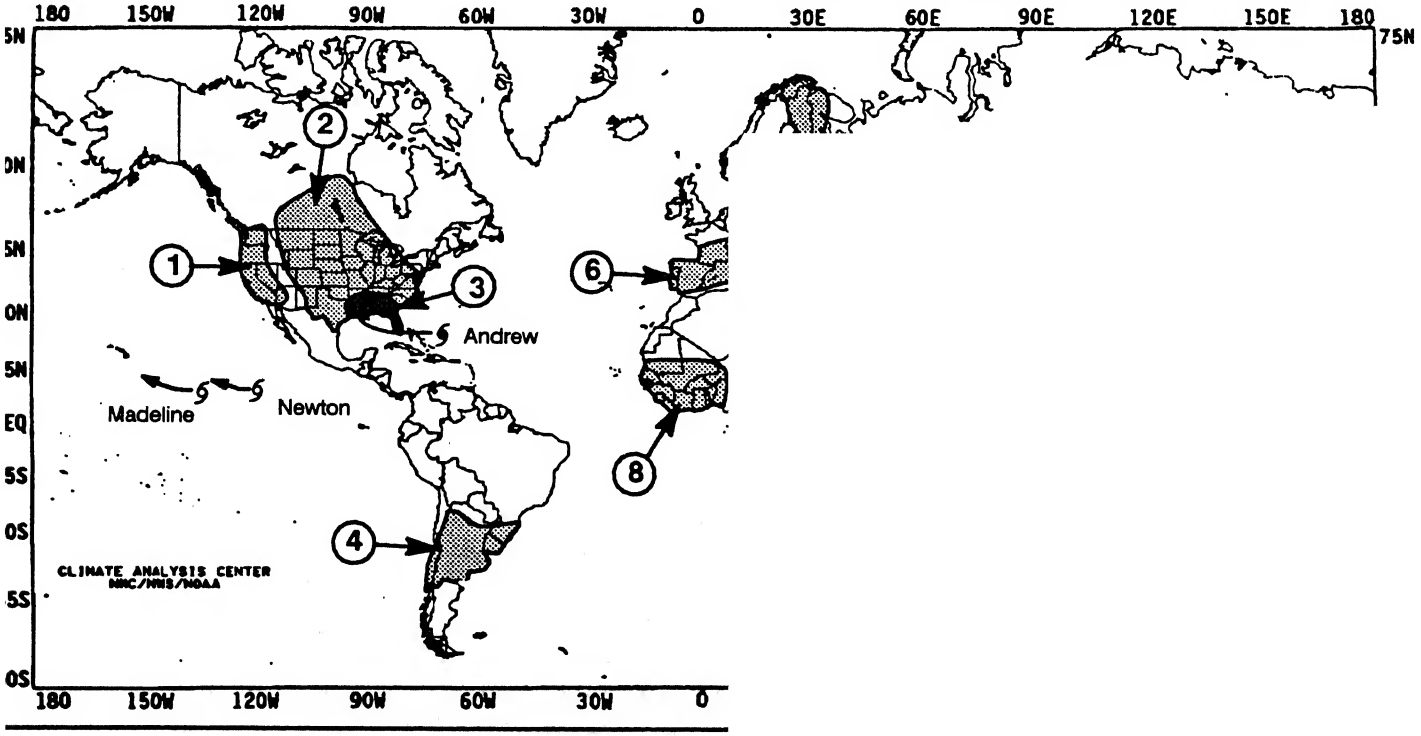
DRYNESS CONTINUES.

Precipitation amounts were generally below 30 mm, except along the immediate southern and southeastern coastlines. During the last six weeks, totals in southern China were 50 to 450 mm below normal amounts [8 weeks].

10. New Zealand:

COLD AND WET WEATHER PREVAILS.

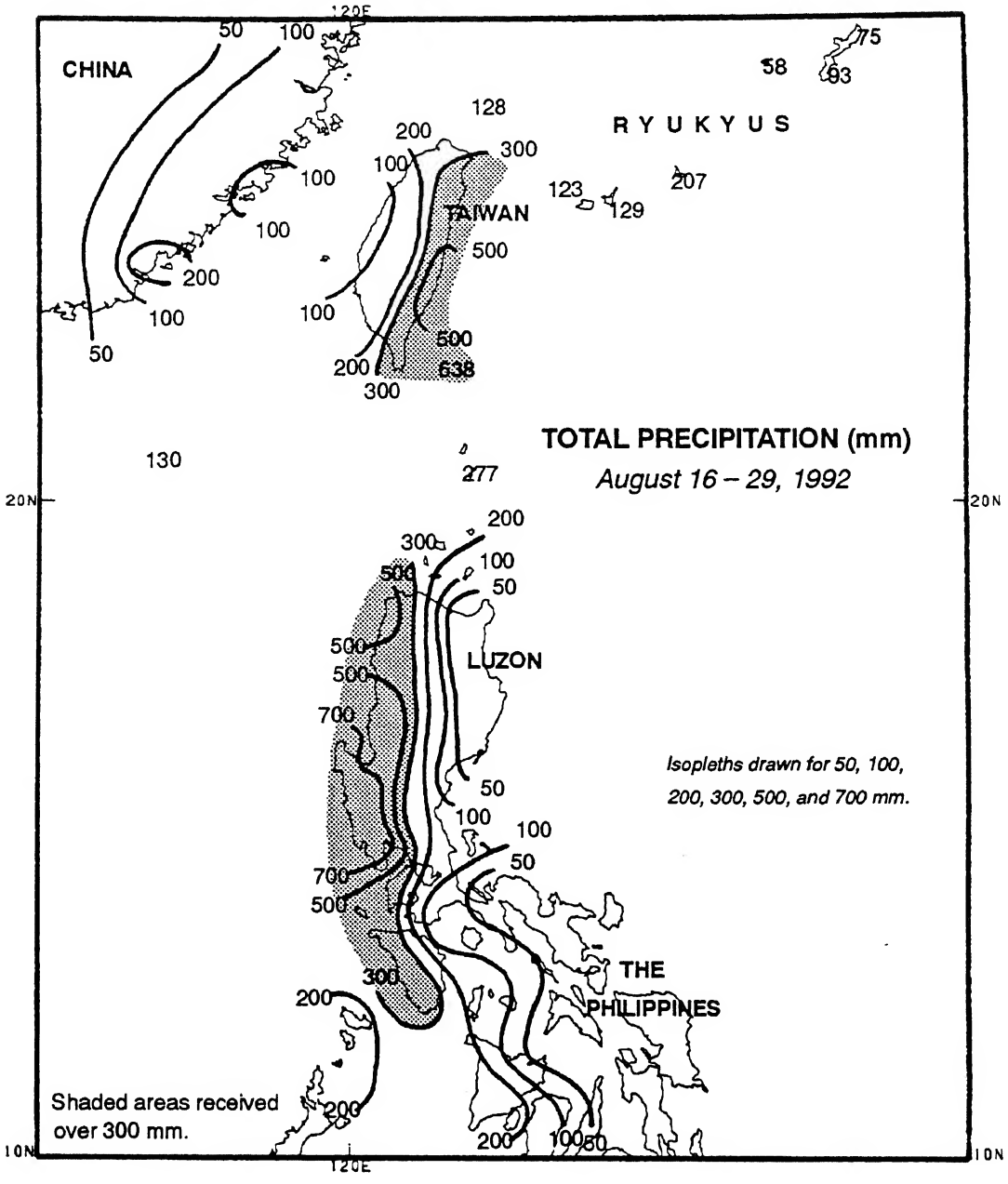
According to press reports, the worst snow storm in twenty years caused the loss of over one million head of livestock in southern New Zealand. Temperatures averaged as much as 3°C below normal last week while precipitation totals ranged from 25 to 125 mm [2 weeks].



EXPLANA

TEXT: Approximate duration of anomalies is in brackets. Precipitatic
MAP: Approximate locations of major anomalies and episodic event temperature anomalies, four week precipitation anomalies, lo

GLOBAL CLIMATE HIGHLIGHTS FEATURE



INTENSE RAINFALL, PARTIALLY FUELED BY TROPICAL CYCLONES, DELUGES EASTERN TAIWAN, THE NORTHWESTERN PHILIPPINES, AND GUAM. *In eastern Taiwan, Tropical Storm Polly brought heavy rains and gusty winds to the island on Saturday, leaving several individuals dead, making numerous roads impassible, and forcing the suspension of domestic air traffic, according to press reports. During the last two weeks, 300 to 638 mm of rain drenched the eastern side of Taiwan. Farther south, the fringes of Tropical Storm Polly generated the latest in a series of heavy rainfall events in the central and western Philippines. Heavy flows of mud and lahar (a mixture of water and smoldering volcanic debris), particularly near Mt. Pinatubo, forced over 270,000 individuals from their homes and buried roads under as much as 10 feet of lahar, according to press reports. The Philippine President recently approved monetary aid for the region which has received as much as 850 mm of rain since mid-August. To the east, Typhoon Omar, packing winds of up to 150 mph, became the most devastating typhoon to hit Guam since 1976. At least 180 individuals were injured, over $300 million in damage was estimated, and running water and power were cut off for the entire island by the storm, according to press reports.*

UNITED STATES WEEKLY CLIMATE HIGHLIGHTS

FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 23–29, 1992

Hurricane Andrew, which formed early in the previous ek in the central Atlantic Ocean, strengthened as it moved stward, smashing through the Bahamas on Sunday and oss southern Florida early Monday with winds of up to) mph (see front cover Weekly Climate Bulletin No. 34, dated August 22, 1992). After entering the Gulf of xico, Andrew veered to the northwest and slammed into Louisiana coast early Wednesday, packing winds of up to) mph (see front cover). Andrew's eye came ashore west Morgan City, LA, bringing widespread flooding to the ist and spawning numerous tornadoes. Andrew akened as it moved inland into Mississippi and lost its pical characteristics in northeastern Mississippi on ursday. The remnants continued northeastward, eading heavy rains, moderate breezes, and scattered breaks of severe weather across the southern and central palachians and mid–Atlantic before the low–level culation finally disappeared in central Pennsylvania late day. Elsewhere, the remnants of Pacific Hurricane Lester led strong thunderstorms and heavy rains over the ithwest and central Rockies during the first part of the ek while dry weather continued to engender wildfires in Far West and northern and central Intermountain West. jor blazes were still burning in Idaho and northern and itral California as the week ended, but cooler conditions ped firefighters in their efforts to control most of the dfires. Unseasonably cool air pushed into the northern l central Intermountain West, northern and central ckies, Great Plains, and Mississippi Valley behind a pair strong cold fronts. At least 170 daily low temperature ords were established from Idaho and Utah to the ssissippi Valley during the week, with 40 record lows orted Wednesday in the Great Basin and northern and itral Rockies.

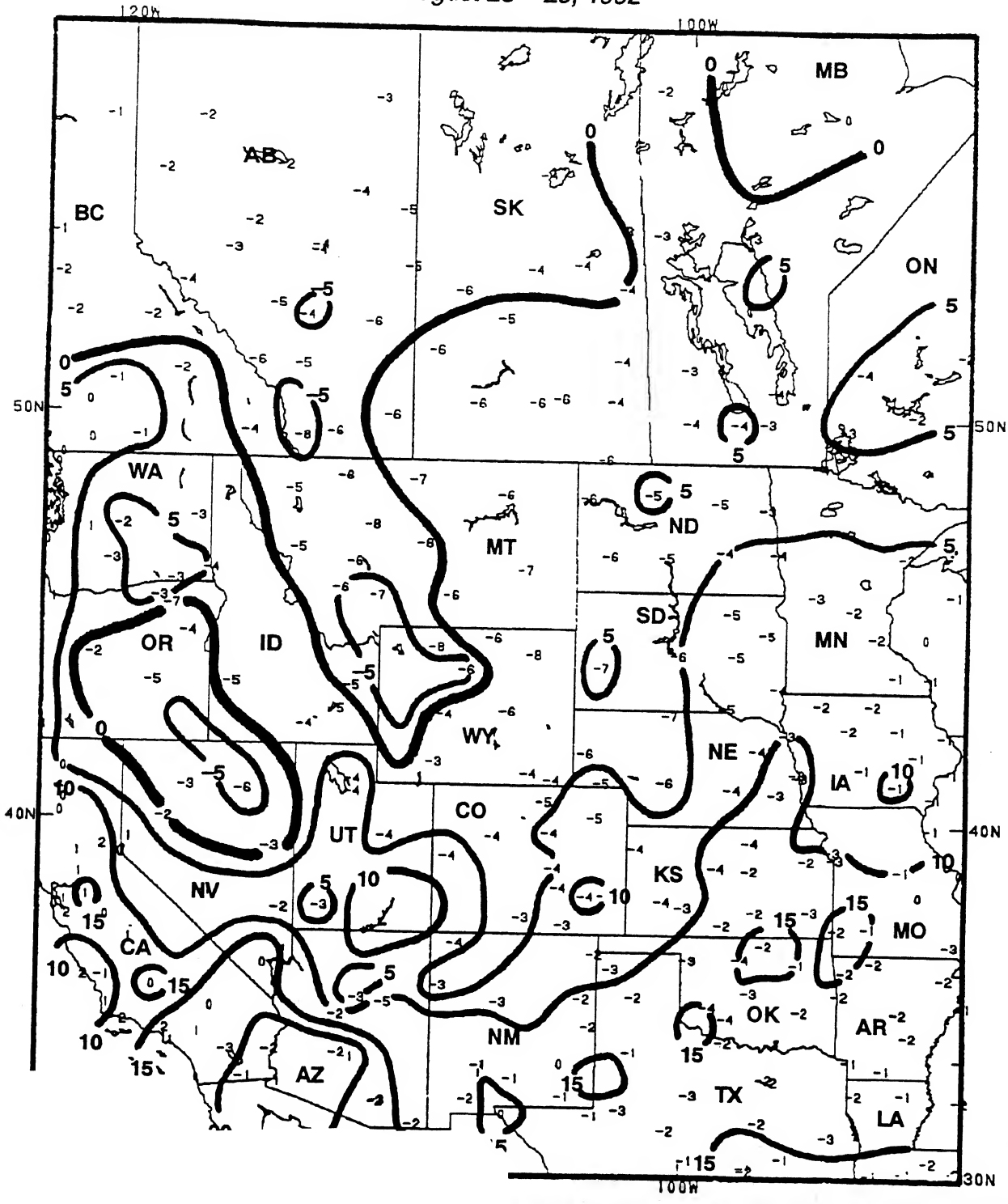
During the first part of the week, Hurricane Andrew red across southern Florida and into the Gulf while nants of Hurricane Lester contributed moisture to nderstorms and showers that drenched much of the uthwest and central Rockies with heavy precipitation. anwhile, a powerful cold front edged southeastward oss the northern and central Plains and central Rockies o the upper and middle Mississippi Valley and southern ins. The front spread heavy rain across the southern High ins and central Great Plains and the middle Missouri and per Mississippi Valleys. An upper level disturbance ead locally heavy rain over the Tennessee and southern io Valleys and southern Appalachians while a large high ssure system provided clear skies for the Northeast and d–Atlantic.

At mid–week, Andrew crashed into Louisiana, then spread severe weather with heavy rain and tornadoes from the lower Mississippi Valley to the central Appalachians as it gradually dissipated. Andrew moved northeastward into the slow, eastward–moving cold front which also brought heavy rain to the Great Lakes, Ohio Valley, and Northeast. A second cold front spread more rain and severe weather across the northern and central Plains, upper Mississippi Valley, and upper Great Lakes on Friday and Saturday. According to press reports, a tornado late Saturday night destroyed or damaged hundreds of buildings, killed two people, and injured dozens of individuals in the vicinity of Wautoma, WI.

According to the River Forecast Centers, the greatest weekly precipitation totals (from 2 to 10 inches) fell across southern Florida and from the lower Mississippi Valley to the central Appalachians and lower Great Lakes, primarily as a result of Andrew and the slow moving cold front. Amounts greater than two inches also drenched the Southwest (from the remnants of Lester), from the central Rockies to the middle Missouri Valley, from southwestern Oklahoma to northwestern Missouri, and the Ohio Valley. Scattered totals of 2 or more inches were recorded over the upper and middle Mississippi, Rio Grande, and Red River Valleys, the Great Lakes, the Northeast, southern Alaska, eastern Hawaii, and the remainder of the Southeast. Light to moderate amounts were measured in the eastern Great Basin and the remainders of the Southwest, the central and southern Rockies, Alaska, and the nation east of the Rockies. Little or no precipitation wa
northern Intermountain We
northern Rockies, an

NORTH AMERICAN HIGHLIGHTS FEATURE

PLOTTED VALUES: DEPARTURE OF AVERAGE TEMPERATURE FROM NORMAL (°C)
CONTOURS: EXTREME MINIMUM TEMPERATURE (°C)
August 23 – 29, 1992

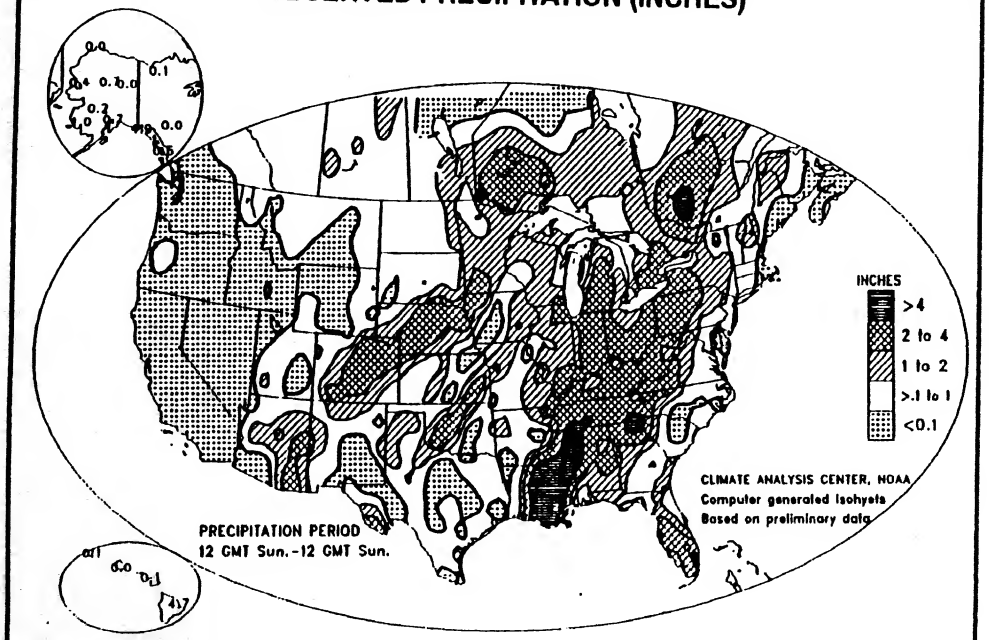


N PRAIRIES, THE ROCKIES, AND THE INTERMOUN-

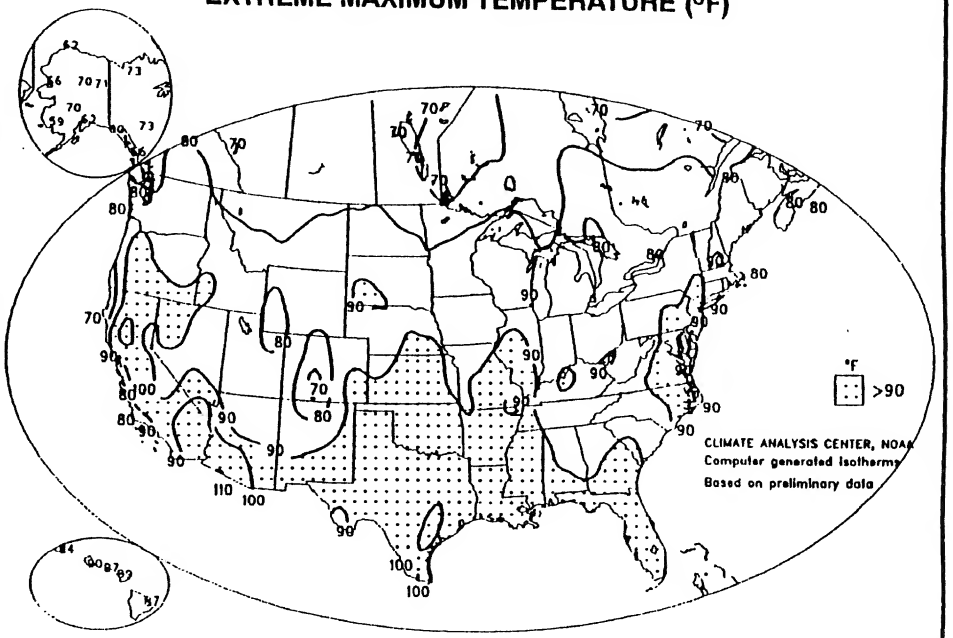
through much of the Plains, Rockies, and Intermountain West rta, western Montana, and northern Wyoming. Locally heavy ys after highs exceeded 30°C at some locations. Although the tures helped firefighters control several large blazes that had ave damaged crops across the Canadian Prairies, where crop

UNITED STATES WEEKLY CLIMATE CONDITIONS *(August 23 – 29, 1992)*

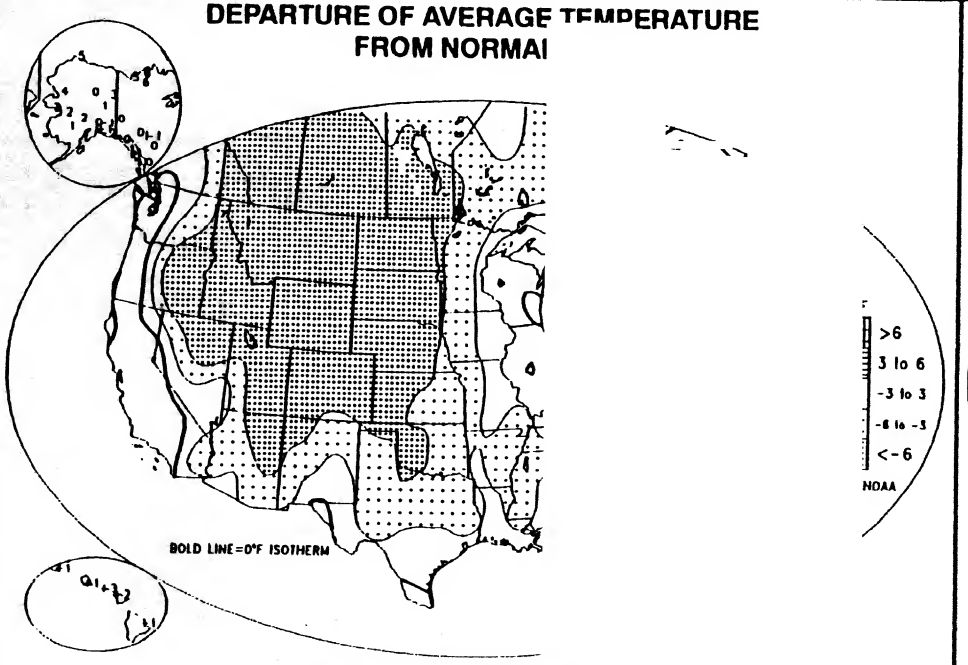
OBSERVED PRECIPITATION (INCHES)



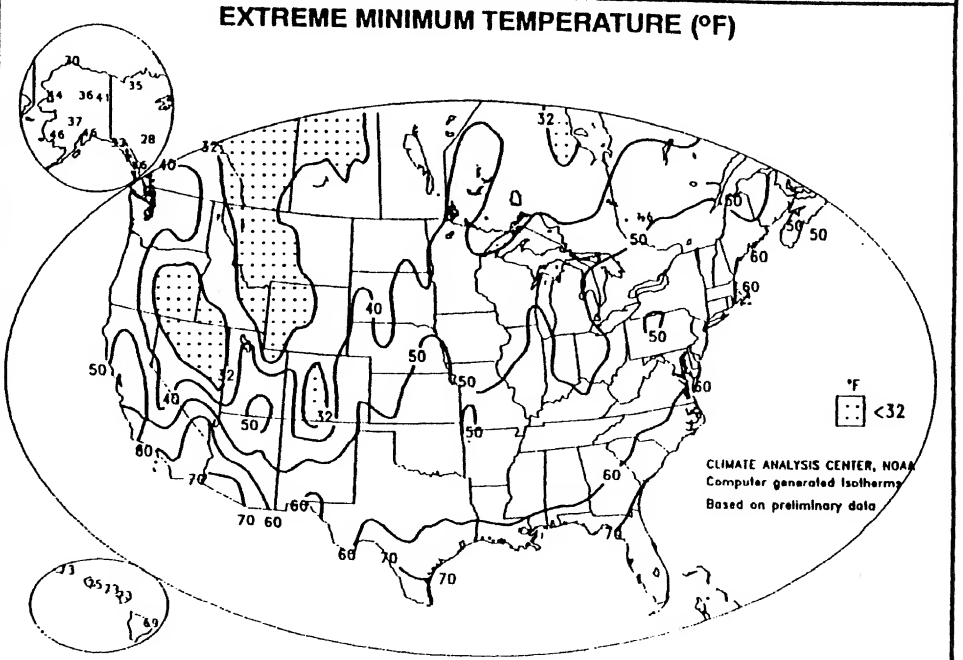
EXTREME MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE (°F)



DEPARTURE OF AVERAGE TEMPERATURE FROM NORMAL

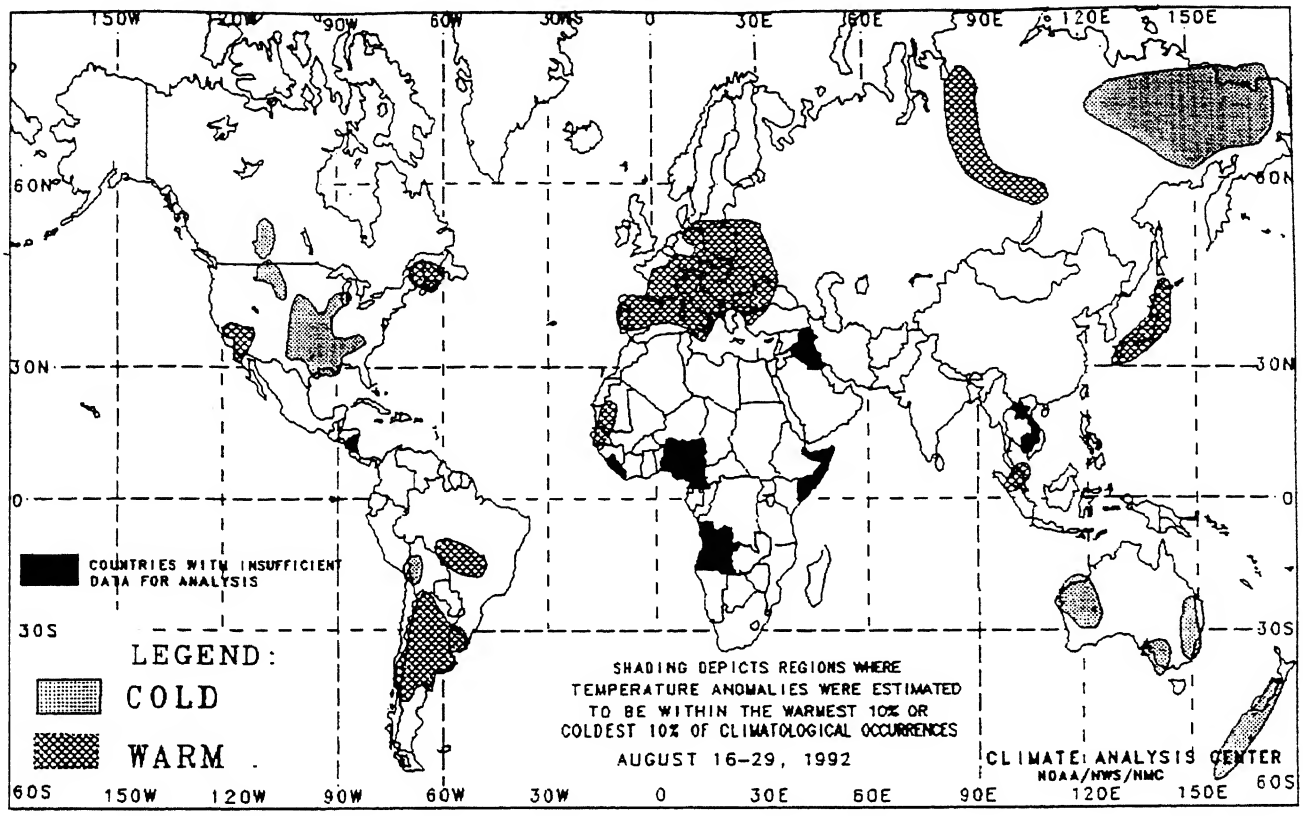


EXTREME MINIMUM TEMPERATURE (°F)



2–WEEK GLOBAL TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES

AUGUST 16 – 29, 1992



4–WEEK GLOBAL PRECIPITATION ANOMALIES

AUGUST 2 – 29, 1992